

REMARKS

The present Amendment is in response to the Examiner's Office Action mailed January 31, 2007. Claims 1, 6, 13, and 24 are amended. Claims 1-7, 9-13, and 18-27 remain pending in view of the above amendments.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments to the claims and the following remarks. For the Examiner's convenience and reference, Applicant's remarks are presented in the order in which the corresponding issues were raised in the Office Action.

Please note that the following remarks are not intended to be an exhaustive enumeration of the distinctions between any cited references and the claimed invention. Rather, the distinctions identified and discussed below are presented solely by way of example to illustrate some of the differences between the claimed invention and the cited references. In addition, Applicant requests that the Examiner carefully review any references discussed below to ensure that Applicant's understanding and discussion of the references, if any, is consistent with the Examiner's understanding.

I. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 & 103

A. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 3-7, and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,769,906 to Purpura *et al.* ("*Purpura*"). Assuming *arguendo* that *Purpura* and the other references cited in the Office Action qualify as prior art, Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejection, as set forth below.

The present claimed invention is patentably distinct from any device purportedly taught by *Purpura*. In particular, Applicant notes that independent claim 1 requires an electrical cable assembly "configured to mate with a receptacle *that is at least partially defined by a body of an x-ray device.*" Independent claims 6, 13, and 24 contain similar limitations. In addition to various other distinctions between *Purpura* and the independent claims outlined here, it is clear that *Purpura* neither teaches nor reasonably suggests an electrical connector assembly configured to mate with the receptacle of an x-ray device. Much to the contrary, the purported cable assembly of *Purpura* is directed toward use in a telecommunication system. As such, Applicant submits that *Purpura* fails to teach each and every element contained in independent claims 1, 6,

13, or 24 and therefore fails to anticipate these claims or the claims that depend therefrom. Applicant therefore respectfully solicits the removal of the rejection of these claims under Section 102.

B. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejects claims 13-18 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Purpura*. Claims 2, 9, and 19 are also rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable under *Purpura* in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,737,122 to *Dechelette*. And claims 24-27 are rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Purpura* in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0087553 to *Tang*.

Applicant notes that each of the above rejections is based upon the *Purpura* reference. As discussed amended independent claims 13 and 24, rejected here under Section 103(a), are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above at IA, that is, the failure of *Purpura* or the other cited references to teach or suggest each of the claim limitations contained therein.

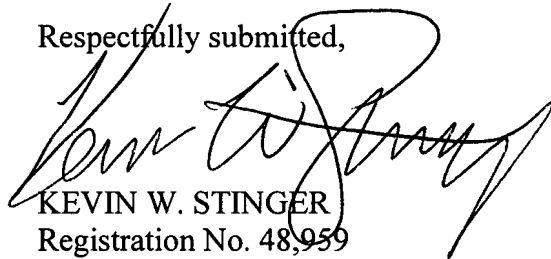
It is further noted that each of the remaining rejected claims above is dependent upon one of independent claims 1, 6, 13, and 24. As has been discussed, the Office Action has failed to make out a *prima facie* case of anticipation with respect to independent claims 1, 6, 13, and 24 for failing to adequately set forth that *Purpura* teaches each and every element required in these claims. *Dechelette* and *Tang* also fail to rectify this absence. Thus, *Purpura* is equally inapplicable to the present claims rejected under Section 103 for at least the same reasons, that is, the failure of the Office Action to set forth the teaching by *Purpura* of all of the claim limitations contained not only in independent claims 1, 6, 13, and 24, but also the limitations contained in the present rejected dependent claims. Thus, the Office Action has failed to make out a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Applicant therefore submits that claims rejected under Section 103(a) are allowable and that the above rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes the claims as amended are in allowable form. In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, or which may be overcome by an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 3rd day of JULY, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,



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